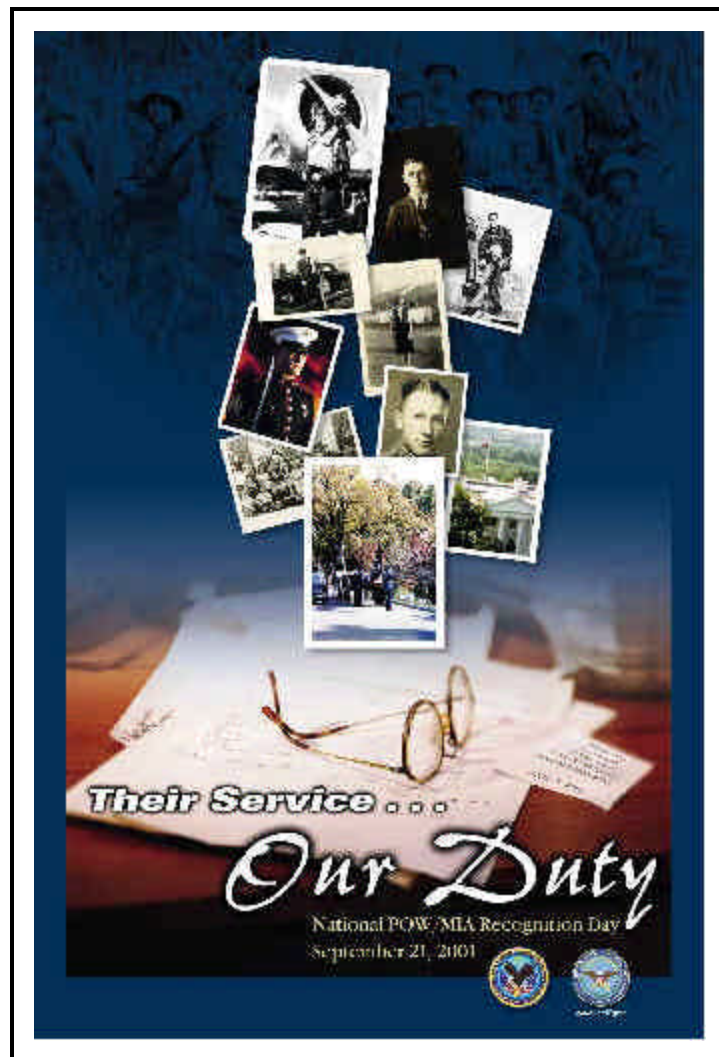


2001 Annual Report



Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office

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To bring them home with honor!

Few Americans know of that simple but poignant mission. The year 2001 is one burned forever into the pages of American history. No citizen of the civilized world is unaware of the horror inflicted on thousands of our innocent citizens.

Yet, in years past – as today – thousands of brave Americans answered their nation's call to action. They stepped forward when others hesitated. Many did not return from foreign battlefields, and the families of those brave Americans still bear that burden – often decades and decades later.

Today, I am proud to lead a team of top professionals, both military and civilian, which seeks to bring an accounting to the American public and to families about the fate of their loved ones. Even in my brief tenure here at DPMO, it is clear to me that these people have answered a call that transcends that of a “job” or a “profession.”

The DPMO team is joined in the field by top specialists from Joint Task Force-Full Accounting; the U. S. Army Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii; the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory; the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory; the Stony Beach team; and by many other unsung heroes in each of the military services.










The following report recounts the work of DPMO people during 2001. The mission they carry out is a part of each of their lives, and it shows.

I commend these pages to your reading.

Sincerely,

Jerry D. Jennings
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
(POW/Missing Personnel Affairs)

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Plans and Policy

The Plans and Policy Directorate (PP) performs the core of DPMO's policy and oversight functions on all issues related to recovery and identification of servicemembers missing as a result of hostile action. The directorate accomplishes this mission through periodic coordination conferences and technical talks in each region, policy directives and memoranda of understanding. Much of the work of the Plans and Policy Directorate during this challenging year was focused on actions aimed at:

- Enhancing access to sites and archives in North Korea and China
- Improving the safety and security of Recovery Teams operating in North Korea
- Continuing emphasis on Fullest Possible Accounting in Southeast Asia
- Ensuring adequate resources and support were provided for Department of Defense organizations performing missions relating to accounting and personnel recovery of personnel.
- Increasing the coordination and flow of information throughout DoD on Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel issues.

During 2001, we coordinated and published a revised DoD Policy Letter on Recovery and Identification of Remains of Missing Personnel incorporating policy related to collection and use of mtDNA. We also developed and began coordination of a Draft National Security Policy Directive on Personnel Recovery and Accounting.

KOREAN WAR ACCOUNTING

China. In January, DPMO coordinated a veteran-to-veteran exchange between United States and Chinese Korean War veterans in Beijing, China. The exchange was very

productive and the involvement of a People's Liberation Army official designated as a point of contact for POW/MIA issues achieved a significant Department of Defense objective in the Korean War accounting process.

In April, however, all initiatives with the People's Republic of China were suspended in the wake of the Navy EP-3 incident. As the crisis subsided, DPMO proposed several initiatives to re-establish contact with the PRC on accounting issues.

DPMO continues pursuing initiatives that include working with the Chinese to investigate two possible World War II crash sites in Tibet, the veteran-to-veteran exchange program and increased access to PRC archives.

North Korea. DPMO efforts to account for missing Americans from the Korean conflict continued to improve during 2001. The agreement reached in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in December 2000 with Democratic People's Republic of Korea allowed DoD to conduct five Joint Recovery Operations in North Korea during 2001 in three different geographic regions, including operations in the Gauntlet area and for the first time, the Changjin (Chosin) Reservoir. To facilitate this, the Korean People's Army agreed to allow two recovery teams per JRO, an increase in JRO team size to 28 personnel, and an increase in the duration of each JRO to an average of 30 days.

In March, prior to the commencement of this year's JROs, we conducted "Expert Talks" in Pyongyang to work out specific details and resolve outstanding issues. The talks were very productive and set the conditions for the success of our recovery operations during the year.

The Central Identification Laboratory – Hawaii (CILHI) completed all five JROs agreed to for 2001, recovering 45 sets of remains believed to be Americans lost



Chosin Reservoir, 2001

during the Korean War. This brings the total number of remains jointly recovered since JROs began in 1996 to 152 and the total number of remains recovered in the DPRK, both unilaterally and jointly, to 360.

The most significant aspect of this year's JROs were the operations in the Changjin region, more commonly known in the U.S. as the Chosin Reservoir. This was the first year we were allowed to conduct

recovery operations in the region. They were the result of years of negotiations and represent a major breakthrough in DPMO's efforts to gain access to remote parts of the DPRK.

In October, during the final JRO for this year, we led a DPMO/CILHI safety delegation to Pyongyang to review all safety and security-related aspects of the North Korean recovery operations. During a series



DPMO safety delegation meeting with DPRK officials, October 2001

of productive meetings, the DPRK agreed in a joint statement that recovery team safety is of paramount significance and that the DPRK would take all necessary measures to ensure JROs continue in a safe and secure atmosphere. We also secured specific agreements on the issues of emergency medical evacuation, communications and general operational procedures. While in North Korea, the DPMO safety delegation also visited the recovery teams operating at the Chosin and Kujang excavation sites.

DPMO officials are expected to lead a DoD team in negotiations with the North Koreans in early 2002 to discuss proposed JROs for the next year. We will continue to press for access to suspected sites, witnesses and archives during those discussions.

South Korea. DASD Jennings met with senior U.S. and South Korean officials in Seoul in December. The focus of discussions was on the United Nations Command support for JROs in North Korea and ongoing U.S. efforts to recover American remains in South Korea. During the visit, he also traveled to the joint security area in Panmunjom.

During 2001, teams from CILHI recovered possible U.S. remains during two major operational periods.

VIETNAM WAR ACCOUNTING

This year, we continued to keep POW/MIA issues at the forefront of the U.S. government's foreign policy in Southeast Asia. This being a year of government transition, we were busy preparing policy positions and background material for every echelon of the DoD leadership. We also worked closely with White House and State Department staff to assist them as they developed their own policy statements. From the beginning, President Bush has made clear



Mr. Jennings meets with General Pol Saroeun in Cambodia.

that POW/MIA issues would continue as a top national priority.

DASD Jennings emphasized this priority during his first trip abroad in his new capacity in September when he met with officials of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. He also emphasized that the U.S. government encourages new approaches to identify and remedy existing information gaps, particularly by seeking out archival sources and witnesses that have not yet been identified. Government and military officials of all three nations pledged their continued cooperation in our personnel accounting effort. As the trip took place shortly after the tragic events of Sept. 11, these officials also expressed their condolences, and Cambodia's Prime Minister

used the opportunity to offer specific assistance to the United States in its campaign against terrorists in Afghanistan and worldwide.

During the year, DPMO also assisted the new U.S. ambassadors to Laos and Vietnam as they developed their own policy objectives.

The accounting mission continues to receive high national priority status. In his Presidential Certification to Congress, President Bush reconfirmed that the central, guiding principle of his Vietnam policy is achieving the fullest possible accounting of our missing servicemen.

Every visit to Vietnam by senior U.S. officials included discussions of POW/MIA issues. These discussions, and the attention garnered by activities such as senior official visits to excavation sites and repatriation ceremonies display to the world our nation's resolve and commitment to the fullest possible accounting of MIAs.

In Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and other countries around the world, senior leaders take note of actions like these and realize that



**Repatriation Ceremony in Savannakhet, Laos
October 2001.**

better relations with the U.S. will come only when accompanied by full cooperation in accounting for missing Americans.

Since the end of the Vietnam War, the U.S. government has repatriated and identified the remains of more than 600 Americans lost during this war. We continue our efforts to account for those still missing through investigative and recovery operations aimed at repatriating remains, as well as investigations that attempt to resolve the question of live American servicemen still in Southeast Asia.

Ensuring that Joint Task Force- Full Accounting (JTF-FA) and CILHI are fully staffed and funded to fulfill the accounting mission remains a central policy objective. DPMO advocacy resulted in an OSD Program Budget Decision that provides over \$30 million of additional funds to JTF-FA over the next five years.



DASD Jennings and U.S. Charge d'Affairs Robert Porter are briefed by a CILHI anthropologist at a recovery site of a U.S. Navy Aircraft in Vietnam.



Curious kids greet our teams in Southeast Asia.

Vietnam. Vietnam continues to provide good cooperation in accounting for missing Americans. In the past several years, they have given us access to some of their archives and witnesses, and conducted their own unilateral investigations that have in some cases led us to successful recovery operations.

The Vietnamese leadership at the highest levels has promised that this level of cooperation will continue until we have completed our work. Our goal is to stress that we will not reduce our effort on this issue until we reach the fullest possible accounting, and it requires a robust Vietnamese partnership.

Following a fatal helicopter crash in April, the first such tragedy in over a decade of joint field activity in Vietnam, both U.S. and Vietnamese officials worked together to return to normal operations as quickly as possible. Despite the significant blow to operations caused by the loss of experienced

U.S. and Vietnamese personnel, JTF-FA, CILHI, DIA's Stony Beach element, and the Vietnamese Office for Seeking Missing Persons put together a successful investigative and recovery operation in July, and another was completed in October. The Vietnamese also completed in December a month-long period of unilateral research and investigative work to pave the way for successful joint operations in the new calendar year.

In order to enhance cooperation in our accounting efforts, and to support U.S. national command authority initiatives, DPMO continues to provide technical assistance to the Vietnamese in their efforts to account for Vietnamese war dead. We delivered 108 compact discs with more than one million pages of archival information to Vietnamese authorities this year. We are planning for three Vietnamese scientists to receive DNA training at the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory in May 2002.

Laos. Laos has historically been more of a challenge, although we are increasingly optimistic about the future of recovery operations there. We have identified potential recovery sites for many of the remaining MIAs in Laos; however, we have not been able to reach them in a timely fashion due to restrictions that had been placed on us by the Lao government. DPMO worked with JTF-FA throughout 2001 to have those restrictions lifted, and experienced some successes this year that have helped increase the pace of operations there.

The Laotians agreed to raise the number of U.S. recovery personnel allowed in country from 40 to 50. This allowed JTF-FA and CILHI to field one additional team to one additional site during field activities this year. They also agreed to show more flexibility in extending the 30-day limit to the recovery operations if a site excavation is nearly complete, allowing the teams to finish with a site so that they do not have to return a second time.

We are hopeful that we will continue to make gains such as those this year, and ultimately eliminate the backlog in recovery operations. In October, a U.S. delegation headed by DASD Jennings attended a provincial governor's seminar in Laos, meeting with local officials to highlight programs to further advance success of our efforts in the field.

In the meantime, we continue to monitor the security situation carefully as there have been several bombs detonated recently in Vientiane, as well as some insurgent activity in the countryside. Although the teams have continued working at or near full capacity this year, these threats have in some cases forced them to divert to alternate investigative areas.

Cambodia. Discussions with the Cambodian government and our overall relations with respect to the POW/MIA issue remain productive. The Cambodian government fully supports our mission and is willing to assist in expanding our operations there.

C I L H I identified nine servicemen lost during the 1975 Mayaguez incident this year. This was one of the most visible successes we have experienced with the Cambodians. We continue to interview witnesses who were on Koh Tang, the island where the rescue attempt occurred, in



Mr. Jennings speaking at the Lao-U.S. Seminar on POW/MIA Cooperation, October 2001.

an attempt to locate and recover the remaining Americans associated with this incident.

As with all the Southeast Asian countries, we continue to request full support in allowing us to review their archives and interview senior officials and other potential witnesses.

GULF WAR ACCOUNTING

At the close of the Gulf War, one U.S. loss remained unresolved. Lt. Cmdr. Michael Scott Speicher, a Navy F/A-18 pilot, was shot down January 17, 1991, the first night of the war, more than 100 miles west of Baghdad.

The Department of the Navy had carried Speicher as missing-in-action until May 22, 1991, when his status was officially changed to killed-in-action, body-not-recovered. In January 2001, the Secretary of the Navy stated that information gathered over the last several years raised uncertainty concerning this incident and underscored the absence of any satisfactory accounting from the government of Iraq. Therefore, the Secretary of the Navy changed Speicher's status back to MIA.

DPMO is an active member of the U.S. delegation of the Gulf War Tripartite Commission, led by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Voting

Gulf War recovery operations





WWII recovery operations in Tunisia

members of this commission include the United States, led by our ambassador to Kuwait, the UK, France, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Since January 1999, Iraq has officially boycotted the commission's meetings. However, Iraq continues to discuss POW/MIA issues through the ICRC.

In March, we asked that Speicher's case be added to those being pursued directly with Iraq by the ICRC under the auspices of the commission. In October, Iraq formally responded through the ICRC that it did not have any further information on Speicher's loss. Believing otherwise, we continue to insist through the commission, the ICRC, and through other venues that Iraq provide all information that it has. We continue to be involved in all aspects of this process.

WORLD WAR II ACCOUNTING

DPMO is fully committed to an accounting of our more than 78,000 missing in action from World War II. We work hand-in-hand with researchers within DPMO and CILHI in ongoing efforts to recover remains from Europe and the Pacific. CILHI's main WWII recovery effort this year was in Papua New Guinea where many successful recoveries of remains from air crash sites took place. Recovery operations also took place in France, Tunisia and Russia this year. In April, we participated in the first international conference on operations and policy held in Papua New Guinea where a discussion of methods to become more efficient in recovery operations in the future took place.

Research and Analysis

SOUTHEAST ASIA DIVISION

The Southeast Asia Division of the Research and Analysis Directorate continues to provide support for a wide array of activities in pursuit of an accounting for Americans missing from the Vietnam War. Years of experience in Southeast Asia and working the POW/MIA issue make participation by division analysts key to the success of many DPMO activities and initiatives. As in past years, division analysts assisted national policy makers, POW/MIA families, Congress and veterans' organizations, while at the same time fulfilling our commitment to resolve the cases of each of the missing.

Casualty Resolution. Providing leads for the joint investigation teams in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia is the first priority of division analysts. We work closely with our colleagues throughout the POW/MIA community, meeting several times a year to

coordinate on analytical "next steps" for hundreds of cases. These meetings of JTF-FA, CILHI and DPMO analysts were held in January, May and November. At the November session, these agencies were joined by DIA's Stony Beach team and Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory (LSEL) to help ensure that every possible fact and lead is part of the investigative effort.

Last Known Alive Cases. A priority in the investigative process are the Last-Known-Alive (LKA) cases. Twice this year division and JTF-FA analysts along with Stony Beach investigators, met in Hanoi with their counterparts in the Vietnamese Office for Seeking Missing Persons (VNOSMP) to discuss these cases. They developed specific case leads for both the joint Research and Investigation Teams (RIT) and the Vietnamese investigators who assist in locating requested witnesses and oral history candidates who have information on the cases. Southeast Asia analysts also



One of many case coordination meetings that takes place between DPMO, JTF-FA, Stony Beach and CILHI analysts.

participated in a September 2001 Intelligence Coordination Conference with representatives from Stony Beach and JTF-FA, where workloads, responsibilities and opportunities for collection were all clearly delineated.

Negotiation Support. DPMO case analysts actively participate in technical talks between JTF-FA and the VNOSMP held several times a year in Hanoi. In addition to a special unilateral focus meeting in November, one of our senior analysts attended technical talks in January, June, September and December. Another analyst spent two months assigned to JTF-FA, working in the field in Vietnam as a member of an investigative team.

Our Lao specialists worked with Stony Beach and JTF-FA to prepare talking points for Lao consultative talks. One of the key points of this effort is to encourage Lao cooperation on the Oral History Program (OHP). Lao officials and veterans will be interviewed for their general knowledge of wartime events or requested to complete written questionnaires. While this effort has been successful in Vietnam, particularly in following up on U.S. ground losses, Lao participation has been scant.

In addition to consultative talks in Laos in May and September, two senior analysts attended the conference of Lao provincial governors where there were substantive briefings and discussions on the accounting activities in that country.

Unilateral Leads Focus. The division's Cambodian specialist continues to work on leads for field investigations of American losses in that country. In August he participated in a meeting in Bangkok to prepare for the Khmer to unilaterally follow-up on case leads. As a special activity this analyst led ongoing efforts to investigate a

new lead on an LKA case. Similarly, another division senior analyst went to Hanoi for a meeting to add emphasis and focus to the unilateral Vietnamese effort to find leads. In Vietnam the results of these preparatory steps have become an important part of joint investigative efforts.



Laotian children

Support to the Congress. Although division researchers routinely assist in responding to congressional correspondence, this year some were called upon to provide significantly



Repatriation Ceremony, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

more support. In an effort that spanned several months, a small group of analysts met a request by Senator Robert Smith (R-N.H.) to brief his staff on more than 40 unresolved firsthand live sighting reports. Also in response to congressional interest, analysts researched the case of a 1954 U.S. loss near Dien Bien Phu during the French-Indochina War. At the invitation of Senator Mark Dayton (D-Minn.) a senior analyst traveled to Holdingford, Minn., to participate in a well-attended high school forum with the Senator and the DPMO Public Affairs Officer. The analyst presented an in-depth briefing on the DoD's Vietnam War POW/MIA accounting effort.

Support to Families. In addition to providing the analytical support necessary to answer hundreds of family inquiries, analysts reviewed and updated more than 140 cases for the 2001 government briefings.

We provided the next-of-kin attending the League of Families/government briefings in June the most current case summaries known as "scrub sheets." During the spring, Southeast Asia analysts also provided current

operations briefings at several National League of Families regional meetings.

Support to DoD Accounting Operations. Southeast Asia analysts often assist the DASD – POW/MIA in the oversight of all DoD accounting efforts including all POW community operations. Numbers, indices and projections often measure the progress of the various principal and adjunct accounting programs. Growth in the operations in Laos this year from four to five teams

was based on a projection and assessment of the growing amount of work to be done there.

Early in the year analysts participated in an intense project to review, correct and add to each listing in DPMO's computer database of Southeast Asia losses, commonly referred to as the PMSEA (Personnel Missing in Southeast Asia). It includes those currently missing, former POWs and those whose remains have been repatriated since the end of the war. A primary goal was to reconcile various loss location coordinates identified during the joint investigations and reported over the years. This project ensured the database reflects the best available information.

Other Analyst Projects and Activities. A recent success in the area of photo identification dealt with a series of photographs that were widely circulated in Southeast Asia. Some reports claimed that the bearded Caucasian depicted in the photos was one of several unaccounted-for American POWs. After exhaustive analytic work and an extended live sighting investigation which included an interview with the subject in the

photo, we determined he was a Hungarian national who had spent several years in Asia studying the Bru or Van Kieu ethnic minority. He provided no POW-MIA information.

Another significant accomplishment involved the analysis of a Vietnamese propaganda film entitled "Victory at Kham Duc." It has been a subject of discussion between DPMO analysts and veterans groups, in particular the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA). The poor quality of the film defeated initial efforts to identify all but one American depicted. Leveraging new technology, our analysts extracted clear images of the faces of two additional men, connected them to a detail reported in a previous debrief and positively identified them. Despite being portrayed on this film, the men were captured three months after the battle for Kham Duc and were in a remote and entirely different communist military region. This film demonstrates that Vietnamese motion picture producers at least occasionally combined scenes from unrelated incidents and

portrayed them as scenes from a single incident.

Intelligence Collection and Management.

Southeast Asia analysts continually refresh the tasks assigned to the collectors in the field such as the Stony Beach team. This year, work continued on building an order of battle database that will identify enemy units and thus, potential future witnesses. In addition to tasking the collectors to conduct interviews, several of our own analysts conducted interviews themselves. Our analysts also take the lead in balancing all collection requirements with the needs of the community's operational and forensic investigators to get their jobs done as well.

Analysts continue to follow-up on each firsthand live sighting report, making full use of available intelligence assets in the investigation and analysis of these accounts. A live sighting review panel, comprised of representatives of DIA, CIA and the Department of State, met in January to review



Veterans assist DPMO researchers with case analysis

potentially resolved reports and question analysts on their findings. It is only after this panel meets and concurs with analysts' findings that a live sighting report is considered resolved. There are currently 17 unresolved, firsthand sighting reports of which 14 relate to sightings made before 1976.

U.S. Research. Southeast Asia analysts often conduct research in the National Archives or the various military archives, supplementing the casualty data files when an element of the loss incident seems vague. Frequently, other DoD analysts will ask directorate analysts to double check with other records, such as situation reports or wartime order of battle, to determine if alternative investigative paths can be pursued in the field. Division researchers are using the extant U.S. and enemy documents to support efforts to find and interview oral history candidates.



(r) DASD Jennings visits with (l-r) Gen. Pol Saroeun, U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia Kent Wiedemann and Prime Minister Hun Sen during SEA Trip.

Briefings of Families and Veterans. In addition to making presentations at the National League of Families/government briefings in June, we also participated in national meetings of the Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars. One analyst traveled to Kentucky to brief the state legislature and the state's Department of Veterans Affairs.

Briefings to Ambassadors of the Area. Periodically, Southeast Asia analysts are provided an opportunity to brief incoming or visiting ambassadors from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia on our progress on the POW/MIA accounting efforts in the ambassador's country. This year we provided background briefings to the envoys for all three countries.



Keeping families informed is a top priority for DPMO.

NORTHEAST ASIA DIVISION

Support for the Joint Recovery Operations (JRO). We provided key support to CILHI and DPMO Plans and Policy directorate for the search and recovery program in North Korea. Our Northeast Asia analysts researched a variety of sources, developing lists of prison camp cemeteries, U.N. cemeteries, battlefield and air loss sites for recommended search and recovery operations. Research sources include official unit war diaries, government and commercial works by military historians -- including personal papers as well as CILHI holdings and all air search case records. This year we also interviewed more Korean War veterans. In December, in high-level talks with the North Koreans, DPMO nominated prominent loss sites, to include area air losses, for next year's operations.

During the JROs from April to November, we provided a direct support research capability to answer in quick turnaround, casualty questions from the search and recovery teams on site. The same support was accorded for the recovery

operations conducted in South Korea. Research continues, focusing on CILHI queries related to the recoveries in the Chosin Reservoir. Forty-five remains recoveries took place this year. A total of 152 have been recovered since operations began in 1996.

In March, DPMO and CILHI members traveled to North Korea to conduct an experts meeting where we provided the North Koreans the supporting site location data on the recommended search sites in Kujang and Unsan Counties, Kaechon City, and the Chosin Reservoir. There are more than 2,000 losses in these counties in 45 separate battle areas and 26 aircraft crash sites. We also approached the North Koreans about pinpointing the exact discovery locations of the 208 recoveries they made and returned to the United Nations Command between 1990 and 1994. The Koreans provided 12 witness statements on potential burial sites based on the information they developed from their own investigations, though none related to the 208 individual remains they unilaterally recovered.

The Oral History Program, begun in 1996, continued to make progress through 2001. The 1,200th interview was recorded in October. At the beginning of the year, we accompanied the DASD for the U.S./ People's Liberation Army Veterans Exchange in Beijing. Within that forum the Chinese veterans in attendance provided additional information on the Yalu River Prison Camp system that they had described the previous September in Beijing in their initial interviews. While in China, analysts made two visits to the PLA Museum in Beijing, noting and recording information from captured personal effects on persons still unaccounted-for from the Korean War. We passed that



DPMO analyst Mike Flynn reviews a map of North Korea with Dallas Mossman (B Co., 38th Inf Regt).

information to the service casualty officers upon return to DPMO.

The visit to the 24th Infantry Division reunion in Norfolk, Va. was a watershed event. DPMO and CILHI analysts have now conducted a screening of veterans for POW/MIA information from every U.S. ground division that served in the Korean War that holds such events. We met with veterans from the Chosin Few International Association and Army Chapter, 1st Cavalry Division, 2nd Infantry Division, 25th Infantry Division, the 1st Marine Division and the aforementioned 24th. We attended for the sixth time, the Korean War Ex-POW and Tiger Survivors Association Reunion. Multiple visits have proven useful for these events as the analysts commonly meet new members in these organizations - even 50 years later.

As in years past, the veterans provide eyewitness information on loss incidents of men still unaccounted-for. They tell us the loss location and some can provide the hasty

burial data. We also continue to work with the "Korean War Project," a Korean War commemoration web site in Dallas, Texas, to locate additional veterans with direct knowledge on graves registration operations, both for the 1954 *Operation Glory* remains exchange and for the Eighth Army graves registration operations conducted in South Korea between 1951 and 1955.

Analyst exchange meetings. We met with CILHI analysts working the Korean War remains recovery and identification issue in three separate information exchange conferences this year. We provided the results of all research work conducted in archives on the U.S. mainland. Each side shared all Oral History program results from interviews collected during the year. CILHI provided results of this year's JRO work and the status of remains identifications. Jointly, DPMO and CILHI developed and refined potential loss populations for the various



(l-r) Mike Flynn of DPMO, Col Jim Hinton (USA, Ret.), Tank Co, 38th Inf Regt, 2ID National President; Sam Mace (Platoon Leader, Tank Co., 38th Inf Regt); and Jim Warrender (Past 2ID National President) at the 2ID 80th annual reunion before the DPMO marketing display in Peoria, Ill., July 2001.

groups of remains handed over by the North Koreans from 1990-1994, 200 of which are yet to be identified.

Based on CILHI and DPMO prior analytical work on records relating to the 416 unidentified remains returned during *Operation Glory*, in January CILHI exhumed remains of two Korean War and two World War II unknown soldiers buried in National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific--the "Punchbowl" in Hawaii. This effort is part of the accounting initiative to extract DNA from exhumed remains as a tool to aid in the identification process. Unfortunately, as was the case of the remains exhumed in 1999, these remains were resistant to mtDNA sequencing. AFDIL continues its work on the development of new protocols for extracting mtDNA.

Personnel Missing Korea List. DPMO's working document for maintaining a list of unaccounted-for from the Korean War is the Personnel Missing Korea List (PMKOR). This document was added to our web site in February 1999. Over 3,000 administrative changes and corrections to the PMKOR were made this year. These updates were made based on five identifications of repatriated remains, additional archival research and even corrections sent to us by the public. The PMKOR, through DPMO's web site, is now 'hot linked' to more than 900 external Internet web sites.

Archival Research. We continue work jointly on several archival research initiatives with DPMO's Special Projects and Archival Research directorate. Our analysts provided specific collection requirements to SPAR researchers who conduct periodic research at the National Personnel Records Center in



Korean War unknown disinterment ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific—known as the "Punch Bowl," located in Hawaii.

St. Louis, the NARA College Park facility, and the Korean War History Center in Kansas City, Mo. The U.S. Army Morning Report files in St. Louis were reviewed to verify unit of assignment and loss date for dozens of cases. The NARA College Park files were examined to develop a circumstances of loss database for Korean War Navy at sea losses and selected World War II air losses.

A DPMO analyst reviewed four linear feet of the personal papers and photography of war correspondent David D. Duncan, an eyewitness to the 1950 Pusan Perimeter battle, the Inchon Landing and the Chosin Reservoir breakout. This collection is housed in a rare manuscript archive at the University of Texas at Austin, and was reviewed to develop additional information on the U.N. cemeteries in the Chosin area. These are the same cemeteries to which DPMO has been seeking access.

In the fall, RA and SPAR jointly began reviewing USMC combat records from the early Korean War battles to refine our database of Marines from 1st Marine Division



DPMO marketing display at Air Force Sergeants Association annual convention.

still unaccounted-for. This review has clarified Marine losses in the September 1950 Inchon Landing and subsequent drive on Seoul. The Naval Historical Center granted access to these records for the first time this year. In earlier years they were being indexed and processed for retirement.

We located 75 Korean War U.S. Army battle after-action reports in the Defense Intelligence Agency Library. They were written by combat historians, some who later became authorities on World War II and Korea, namely, Martin Blumenson, Roy Appleman and Billy Mossman. We used information obtained from these documents to build on the files of specific incidents of Korean War unaccounted-for servicemen. DIA also had copies of 1:50,000 scale Russian-produced maps from the Korean War era, with updates from the 1970s—the earliest map sets DPMO has located from the war that have been very useful to us as an additional

research tool. We acquired a complete set of these maps covering areas on the Korean peninsula. To better pinpoint air losses, we use these maps when reviewing the reports and maps generated from the Russian Ministry of Defense Archives at Podolsk.

We have also contacted the U.S. Army Quartermaster School and Museum at Fort Lee, Va. to review the archival documents they hold on graves registration operations not available at CILHI or already retired at NARA. Though lacking specific data on Korean War individual losses, the museum did provide reports and articles written during and immediately following the Korean War describing the full range of graves registration work done during the war. Articles on recoveries conducted in South Korea from 1951 – 1954 and the processing of remains from *Operation Glory* (1954-1955) were among these documents.

In an effort to work proactively on determining potential recovery sites in South Korea, our analysts conducted joint research at CILHI. They reviewed the loss locations annotated in records of the 450 U.S. unknown soldiers recovered in South Korea from 1950 to 1955. Since new leads on remains locations in South Korea develop periodically, this research will help correlate previous recovery work to new leads. Based on this study, the recovery teams operating in South Korea can better project the number of remains potentially locatable in any reported site.

Outreach. We devote dozens of man-hours every month in support of the family and veterans outreach mission. This year we researched and answered 428 personnel loss inquiries from congress, veterans, other concerned citizens and family members. We also wrote 332 Korean War, seven WWII and one Cold War case summary reports on Americans still missing from those wars. Our analysts provided case-specific expertise at all ten family updates and corresponding veterans meetings held across the country this year.



DPMO analyst Phil O'Brien speaks with Bernice Dunham, sister of a Korean War MIA.

Joint Commission Support

The presidents of the United States and Russia established the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs in 1992. President Clinton appointed Maj. Gen. Roland Lajoie, USA (Ret) in Dec. 1998 to succeed Ambassador Malcolm Toon as U.S. co-Chairman. On the Russian side, President Yeltsin appointed General-Major Vladimir Zolotarev in Jan. 1996 to succeed the late General-Colonel Dmitrii Volkogonov as Russian co-Chairman. The Commission continues its efforts to acquire information on the fate of missing American and Russian service members in armed conflicts from World War II to the present.

The Commission is composed of senior American and Russian executive and legislative branch officials and staff who hold plenary sessions and working group meetings to assess and coordinate policy and undertake research and investigative efforts aimed at clarifying the fate of missing American and Russian service members. To date, it has held 17 plenary sessions (15 in Moscow and two in Washington, D.C.). In addition to the plenary sessions, three other high-level meetings between principal U.S. and Russian commissioners have taken place, as have numerous working group consultations on specific issues.

The work of the Commission has focused on three primary objectives. The first objective has been to determine whether any American POW/MIAs are

being held against their will on the territory of the former Soviet Union (FSU) and, if so, to secure their immediate release and repatriation. The second objective has been to determine the fate of American unaccounted-for who were located on the territory of the former Soviet Union during and after World War II, and to determine what information the Russian government possesses about them or any other missing American servicemen. The third objective has been to clarify information pertaining to Soviet personnel missing from World War II, the war in Afghanistan, and Cold War-era loss incidents.



Capt. David Willis of DPMO Moscow examines a piece of aircraft wreckage he found in the Avacha River, Kamchatka, Russia.



Perm-36 Special Regime Camp, now a museum.

200 U.S. airmen shot down during the war. They continue to investigate the possible transfer of U.S. POWs from the Korean theater of operations to the FSU. A special Gulag Study team was established this year to focus exclusively on the numerous eyewitness accounts about American citizens in the Soviet Gulag prison system. Their work is described in some detail below.

The Vietnam War Working Group seeks further information from Russian archives and

To facilitate its work, the Commission is organized into four working groups examining World War II, the Cold War, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

The World War II Working Group has conducted extensive historical research on the liberation and repatriation of American and Russian POWs at the end of the war. This year the working group carried out an excavation of a World War II-era crash site of a U.S. Navy bomber on the Kamchatka Peninsula.

The Cold War Working Group has directed its efforts at resolving the fates of U.S. crewmen from ten specific incidents of U.S. aircraft lost over or near Former Soviet Union territory 1950-1965. The Cold War Working Group has also conducted extensive research on Soviet MIAs from the war in Afghanistan.

The Korean War Working Group has helped clarify the circumstances of loss of more than

veterans of the Vietnam War about America's missing service members from that conflict.

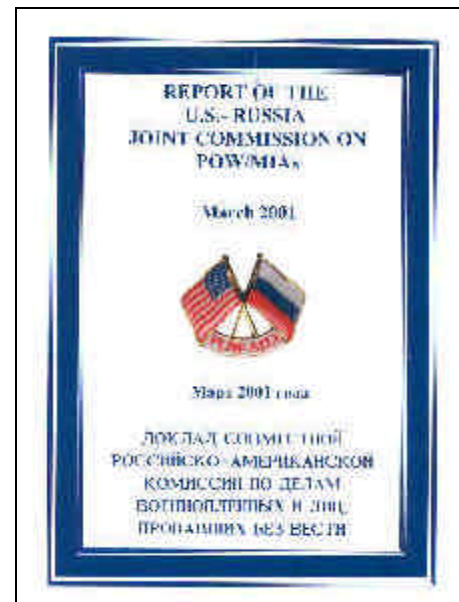


U.S. Navy PV-1 patrol bomber wreckage from WWII, Kamchatka.

Another focus of the Commission's work is Eastern Europe, where it conducts archival research and interview programs. Some of the countries that have been visited are Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary, Romania and the Czech Republic.

Joint Report. In April, the USRJC presented to the presidents of the United States and Russia a joint report documenting the Commission's accomplishments from 1995-2000. The report provides a detailed description of the progress each working group has made in the past five years towards achieving the Commission's objectives.

The joint report notes that progress has been uneven and many unresolved issues remain. Recommendations for future directions, covering new approaches and hitherto untapped sources of information required to resolve these issues, are included. For example, the U.S. side believes that the only way to establish conclusively the facts about American servicemen who were reportedly held in Soviet prisons and labor camps during the Cold War period is through a careful review of historical documents from the archives of the Soviet intelligence and



USRJC Joint Report

security services. The report suggests that information could be shared from these archives while maintaining respect for Russian security concerns.

The report identifies re-energizing and expanding the oral interview program as a Commission priority. This is of particular concern as participants in the conflicts under review grow older and eventually pass away.

In its conclusion the report notes we must continue to build upon the considerable U.S.-Russian cooperation on the POW/MIA issue established over the years. It notes that both sides must strive to overcome any future difficulties in implementing new approaches, working toward a common goal of resolving the fate of missing service personnel of both countries.



Gulag researcher Michael Allen at Perm-36 Strict Regime Camp

WWII. We followed up on last year's visit to a World War II aircraft crash site in Kamchatka, Russia, with a full-scale joint recovery operation. This summer the Commission, in conjunction with CILHI, mounted an expedition to recover a U.S. Navy PV-1 patrol bomber, missing with its crew of seven since March 25, 1944, at a site on the Russian far eastern peninsula of Kamchatka. The PV-1 crashed on Kamchatka after its bombing mission against a Japanese naval base on Shumshu Island.

Some remains were recovered from this site. Positive identifications are pending definitive analysis at CILHI and eventual DNA matching of the remains at the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL). While on Kamchatka, we interviewed local residents and investigated at least eight other WWII-era crash sites on the peninsula.



Team surveys wartime wreckage, Kamchatka



Base camp for the U.S. Navy PV-1 recovery effort on Mutnovskiy volcano.

Media coverage of this effort included segments on NBC Nightly News and the NBC Today Show. PBS "Nova" will air a full-length documentary on this expedition in 2002 as will BBC's "Channel 4."

WWII analysts also conducted a research and liaison trip to Poland, Ukraine, and Belarus. This trip resulted in development of outstanding contacts for future cooperation on POW/MIA topics in all three countries, as well as several specific projects for near-term development, including the possible identification of a WWII burial site in Poland.

Cold War. Research in Russian archival repositories continues to



A Japanese POW cemetery in Irkutsk, Russia. Thousands of Japanese POWs were detained in the Soviet Gulag following World War II and many are buried here.

play a key role in the investigations by the Cold War Working Group. An expanded program of research on U.S. Cold War losses began in the Central Archives of the Border Guards this summer. We hope that documents will be found in these archives to further the Commission's investigation of U.S. Cold War losses. Archival research also continues at the Central Naval Archives at Gatchina.

This year, the working group interviewed a number of Cold War witnesses in Russia, Ukraine and Latvia. We went to the Murmansk-Severomorsk area to check possible burial site locations of an American airman who was shot down over the Barents Sea. Additional trips to the Murmansk-Severomorsk area, Ukraine, Latvia and the far east of Russia are being planned for 2002 to seek additional witnesses and other sources of information.

Korean War. Through its research in the central archives of the Russian Ministry of Defense at Podolsk, the U.S. side of the Joint Commission obtained more than 27,000

pages of materials that relate to U.S. losses during the Korean War. These materials thus far have helped to clarify the fate of more than 200 unaccounted-for Americans from the Korean conflict. Our access to this vitally important archive continues, and we are working there eight days every month in search of further information on missing servicemen from the Korean War era.

Our researchers working in the FSU also continue their program of

interviews with Soviet veterans. An especially active interview program has taken place in Ukraine, where hundreds of veterans currently reside and where local official support for this humanitarian accounting effort remains strong.

Vietnam War. During an April meeting in Washington, D.C., Russian officials provided us excerpts from documents stored at the Podolsk archives on 142 shoot-down incidents involving U.S. aircraft. The information, while sketchy, was in response to a long-standing request from the U.S. side. We will continue to press for more complete access to the Podolsk and other Russian archives. The interview program continues as we search for former veterans throughout Russia and other former Soviet republics who have knowledge about missing American service members from the Vietnam War.

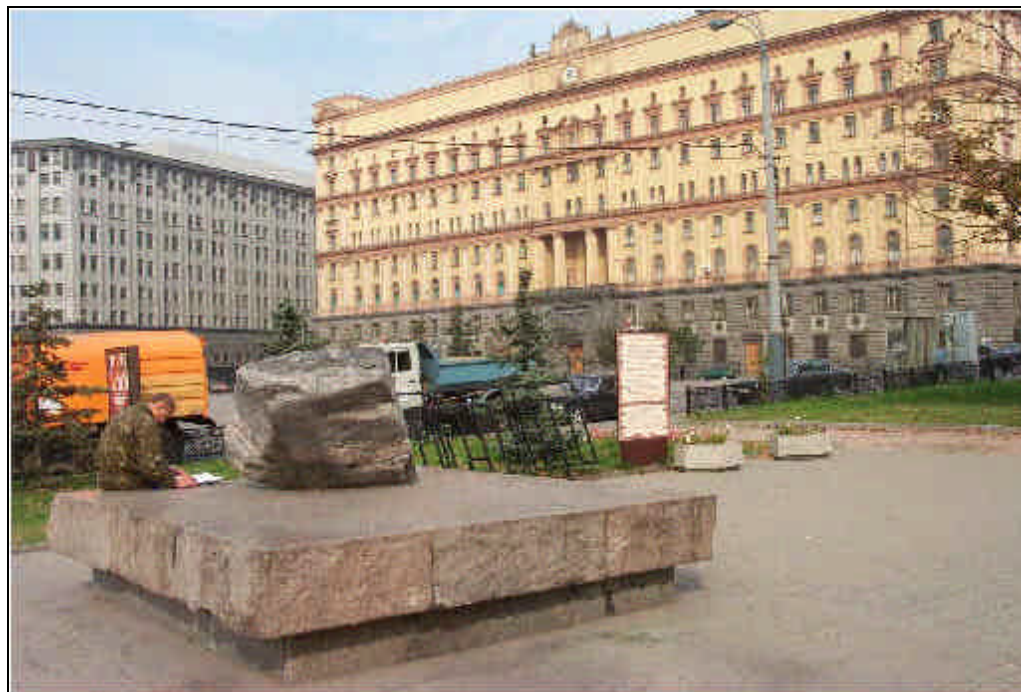
Gulag Study. A special Gulag Study team was established this year to focus exclusively on the numerous eyewitness accounts about American citizens in the Gulag. The first

edition, which is a compendium of reports and firsthand accounts citing the presence of American servicemen in the Soviet Gulag, was released in February. It was followed by a second edition in November.

Gulag researchers continue to identify and actively pursue new avenues of investigation. At the U.S. National Archives, we are reviewing thousands of reports containing interviews of German and Japanese POWs who were released from detention in the Soviet Gulag after World War II. Even at this early point in the inquiry, previously unknown information has been acquired about Americans in the Gulag during World War II, the Korean War, and the Cold War-era, as well as extensive

geographical and administrative data about the Gulag system itself. This information will be used to plan investigative expeditions to former Gulag sites in the next year.

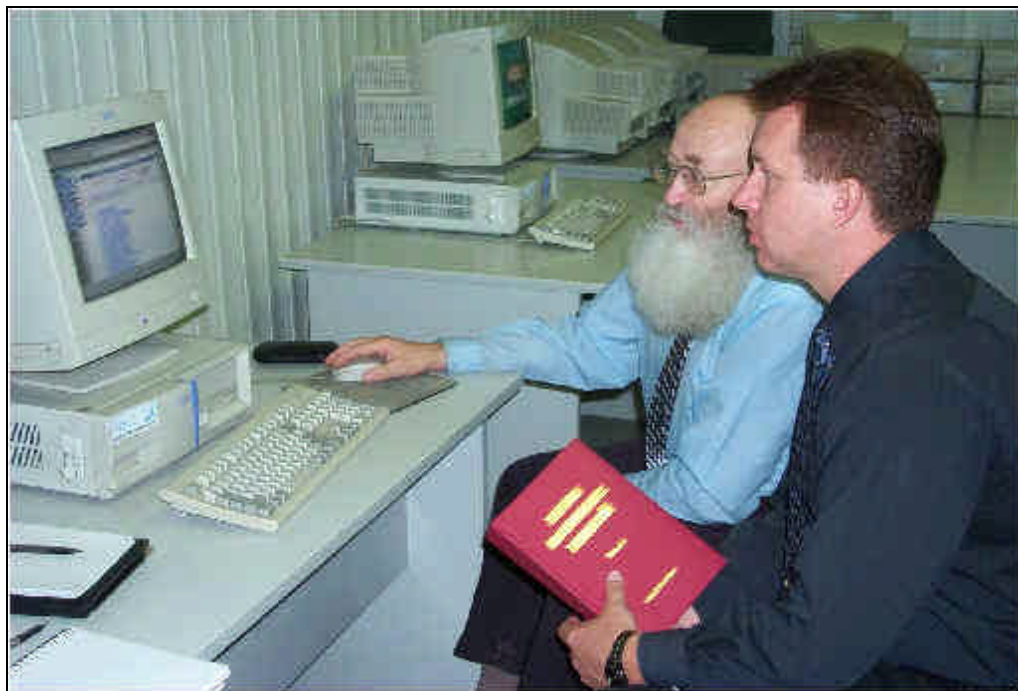
Recent intensive on-the-ground research in the FSU has yielded new reports about American military personnel in the Gulag with specific references to secret camps, camp commanders and former Russian prisoners. One such report provides the basis for an investigative trip to the Russian republic of Sakha-Yakutia, planned for early 2002. As always, the results of these efforts will appear in subsequent updates of the Gulag Study and may be viewed on the DPMO web site (www.dtic.mil/dpmo).



Soloveski Memorial to victims of the Gulag in front of the notorious Lyublyanka Prison and modern day FSB Headquarters

Archival Research. Obtaining access to FSU archives has always been a difficult and complex task for the Commission. Our efforts have paid off to a certain degree, as limited access was granted to the research facilities at Podolsk and Gatchina and this summer to the Central Archives of the Border

Guards. We will continue to pursue future access to additional archival holdings at these and other Russian Federation archives, including those of the former KGB and the Main Intelligence Directorate of the General Staff.



JCSD Gulag researcher Tim Falkowski (r) with Russian Gulag researcher Alexander Alexandrov in Irkutsk, Russia.

Operations and Personnel Recovery

In addition to the extensive accounting mission, DPMO is also responsible for personnel recovery. DPMO establishes policy, control, and oversight measures covering the aggregation of military, civil and political efforts to recover captured, detained, evading, or isolated personnel from uncertain or hostile environments and denied areas. DPMO's Operations Directorate is the focal point for all personnel recovery actions.

The Operations Directorate experienced a year of positive transition while at the same time supporting *Operation Enduring Freedom*. DPMO witnessed a significant changeover in personnel recovery staff members while continuing to maintain its high level of support to the personnel recovery community. Since September 11th, we have focused primarily on supporting

DoD policy efforts involving *Operation Enduring Freedom*. These efforts include:

Activating the Personnel Recovery Response Cell (PRRC). The function of the PRRC is to facilitate informed decision making by OSD principals. The PRRC has multi-agency representation and is normally convened when an isolating event (of a combatant) has occurred. At the beginning of *Operation Enduring Freedom*, however, DPMO convened the PRRC and took proactive measures to assist in the development of public affairs guidance, repatriation and legal status. DPMO has begun to codify this new, proactive posture within existing PRRC guidance by initiating a rewrite of DoD Instruction 2310.3, Personnel Recovery Response Cell (PRRC) Procedures.



Damage to Pentagon from 9/11 terrorist attack, *Operation Enduring Freedom* begins.



DPMO oversees all efforts to recover captured, detained, evading, or isolated personnel from hostile or denied areas. PR recovery operations exercises, such as this one, help identify potential shortcomings.

Actively supporting the Intelligence Community's POW/MIA Analytic Cell.

Earlier this year, Congress directed the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (DCI) to establish a capability within the intelligence community to handle current POW/MIA analysis issues (1991 to present). The DCI subsequently tasked the Defense Intelligence Agency to head the POW/MIA Analytic Cell. DPMO plays a continuing and

active role in this organization ensuring the appropriate intelligence support products are available to the personnel recovery community. Additionally, DPMO played a key role in locating former POWs from the Soviet Union-Afghanistan conflict to increase our understanding of how potential U.S. POWs may be treated.

Advocating more PRC-112B survival radios.

Due to ongoing *Operation Enduring Freedom* actions, DPMO successfully advocated for an increase in PRC-112B survival radios as an interim fix prior to the arrival of the Combat Survivor Evader Locator (CSEL) system. The PRC-112B radios have programmable frequencies and Global Positioning System (GPS) technology. The PRC-112B radios are proven equipment and their use will increase the likelihood of isolated personnel being recovered by friendly forces. An additional 1,000 sets should reach the field in early 2002.

Supporting accelerated delivery of CSEL radio sets.

DPMO has maintained an active role in CSEL both individually and as a member of the Personnel Recovery Technology Working Group. We have worked hard to ensure the overall CSEL program remains on track and supported program efforts to accelerate fielding the first CSEL units by mid-2002 (low rate initial production of 336 units). CSEL will have six programmable channels, GPS capability, and over-the-horizon

communications as well as improvements in secure voice and anti-jamming features.

Introducing new policy instructions for at-risk DoD civilian personnel and contractors. In light of the events of September 11th, many have come to realize that terrorism can affect people in many areas that were once thought safe. As a result, we wrote a DoD Instruction that will establish policy and assign responsibilities for DoD civilians and contractors on how to successfully survive isolated events. This effort is in addition to DPMO's continuing support of the Joint Personnel Recovery Agency work to disseminate Level B Code of Conduct training products for all DoD personnel determined to be at medium risk of capture. Level B training is available on CD-ROM and can be used as a stopgap training measure for high risk of capture personnel who have not been given Level C training.

Strengthening repatriation language. Every individual returned to U.S. government control requires special consideration. The well-being and legal rights of each individual returnee shall be the overriding factors when planning and executing repatriation operations. Except in extreme circumstances of military necessity, these considerations must take priority over all political, military, or other concerns. To further strengthen and clarify this position, we are revising DoD Instruction 2310.4, Repatriation of Prisoners of War, Hostages, Peacetime Government Detainees and Other Missing or Isolated Personnel.

Revision language includes expert medical guidance that provides adequate decompression time between returning to U.S. government control and reporting for duty.



CH-53 conducting a Tactical Recovery of Aircraft and Personnel (TRAP) training mission.

The DASD's personal involvement in DPMO's support of *Operation Enduring Freedom*. The DASD is developing personal relationships with members of the Personnel Recovery Advisory Group and other senior military and government leaders involved in personnel recovery issues to lay the groundwork for even more accomplishments. Under the DASD's guidance, we submitted a National Security Presidential Directive to promote and unite interagency efforts in

personnel recovery operations. We are also working on a strategic plan for the PR community that focuses on recovery platform and battle space technology, personnel preparation, interagency integration and multinational cooperation.

Besides *Operation Enduring Freedom* support, we were extremely active in other personnel recovery concerns at home and abroad. We hosted the fourth DoD Personnel Recovery Conference held in Arlington, Va. More than 400 participants representing 106 commands, offices, and agencies attended the conference. The purpose of this conference was to heighten awareness of personnel

recovery at the highest levels of the U.S. government, exchange ideas within the personnel recovery community, and to identify and resolve policy level issues. The conference achieved these goals. The next conference will be held at the same location in August 2002 and will be co-chaired by DPMO and Joint Forces Command in order to cover both operational and policy issues.

Progress continued on the DPMO-sponsored study of Personnel Recovery in a Coalition Environment conducted by the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA). This year IDA broadened the study's scope to include personnel recovery in non-traditional



Predator (unmanned vehicle) and an A-10 participate in joint TRAP training. DPMO is active in all personnel recovery concerns both at home and abroad.



CH-53E conducting TRAP exfiltration

coalitions. The IDA study team, along with DPMO staff, observed coalition exercises such as *Tandem Thrust* in Australia, *Cope Thunder* in Alaska, *Ulchi Focus Lens* in Korea and *Cooperative Key* in Bulgaria. Areas of examination included language barriers, sharing classified information, command and control, doctrine, methods and equipment. The study should be complete in early 2002.

Operations directorate personnel also participated in a variety of conferences concerning personnel recovery and international treaty obligations involving search and rescue. These conferences were held in the Caribbean, Asia, Europe, Australia, and Canada. DPMO's involvement sends a strong signal of support to participants concerning these activities. The highlight of DPMO's international engagement efforts occurred in August with

the first Indo-U.S. discussions on search and rescue. The joint DoD/U.S. Coast Guard team and Indian delegation established the groundwork for future U.S.-India search and rescue exercises within the Indian Ocean and a follow-on visit to the Rescue Coordination Center in Hawaii.

We helped resolve many issues raised within conferences and meetings including the acquisition of the Personnel Recovery Mission Software (PRMS) package for the Korean theater. PRMS dramatically reduces information transcription errors and increases command and control processes by rapidly passing this information throughout the personnel recovery system. PRMS provides informational speed and accuracy at the most critical time during any personnel recovery operation.

Throughout the year, we supported other technological improvements within the

Personnel Recovery Extraction Survivability aided by Smart Sensors Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration (PRESS ACTD) program. This program is designed to identify, demonstrate and assess emerging technologies capable of improving situational awareness during recovery operations. Such improvement areas include greater accuracy in locating/identifying survivors, tracking evader movements, and increasing survivability of both evaders and recovery forces. A product of the PRESS ACTD effort is the Global Personnel Recovery System (GPRS). This space-based system will provide two-way, over-the-horizon data communications and will greatly enhance existing recovery capabilities in multiple

areas. The key to success is getting the system onboard the next generation of Global Positioning System (GPS) satellites. GPRS does not require use of the GPS navigational capabilities but does require the GPS constellation's unique global coverage. The DASD has requested of the commander of the U.S. Space Command that GPRS be given space onboard the new GPS satellites. DPMO will continue to seek technological breakthroughs that will generate successful personnel recoveries.

DPMO's personnel recovery efforts in 2001 have set the stage for even bigger accomplishments next year. The Operations Directorate eagerly awaits the challenges that lie ahead.



CH-53-D, personnel recovery training improves language, command and control, doctrine, methods and equipment issues among allied forces.

Outreach

FAMILY SUPPORT

The Family Support Team provided assistance to many families of POW/MIAs this year by addressing concerns and policy issues, helping to clear up the uncertainties on individual cases, and actively promoting the overall POW/MIA accounting efforts. For us, families come first. We serve as their advocates addressing their concerns regarding the U.S. government's accounting activities. This year we accomplished much to improve access to open, clear, and credible communications with the families of unaccounted-for Americans. We did this by fostering an environment where family members were treated with respect, fairness, dignity and empathy.



Ash Ormes, RA director, explains case analysis procedures to the POW/MIA families.

Family Updates. Since 1995, more than 3,200 family members have participated in our family update program. This year family members took full advantage of this premier outreach program. The family support team organized meetings at nine different

metropolitan areas across the country. These updates offer families personal attention and direct access to a team of specialists who speak on the POW/MIA issue as well as contact with other POW/MIA families. As a result of this program, we reached 635 family members this year with information on government operations in Southeast Asia, North Korea and in other areas around the world. During these meetings experts presented information on the latest technologies used to identify remains; including mitochondrial DNA. Archival research and other topics are also discussed.

The families are afforded the opportunity to ask questions and review details of their own case privately at the end of the day. In an effort to provide families with the most recent information available, we revised the Family Update Agenda Booklet to include current events information and the most recent accounting statistics available. So that family members can look back at what was presented at the update, we now provide each family a printed copy of every presentation given on that day.

To make the family update experience more enjoyable, we began hosting a continental breakfast in conjunction with each meeting. The breakfast helps set the mood for a productive meeting where family members feel comfortable to ask questions and interact with the government officials. Since 1995, the constituency at family updates has gradually changed to include more first-time attendees and a larger proportion of Korean War families. In order to provide a more effective message to that constituency, we are in the process of revising the program. Revisions to the program are expected to be implemented in early 2002.

New Family Orientation.

In a companion piece to the Family Updates, we continue our education program for families new to the POW/MIA issue. The program was designed to familiarize new families with the government agencies that work the POW/MIA issue, the communication plan for families, research methods used for acquiring pertinent records and the bereavement



Open dialog during updates provide information for all who attend, Orlando, Fla., October 2001.



No family member question goes unanswered. Experts from all agencies directly involved in accounting attend family updates, Orlando.

process as it relates to families of the unaccounted-for. It has been a tremendous success. This year, 227 new family members attended these orientation sessions. In an effort to reach even more new families, we are exploring the idea of creating a New Family Orientation video to help spread our message. The video should be ready for distribution in 2002.

Government Briefings at the Annual National League of Families Meeting. In addition to family update meetings, we coordinate an annual government briefing here in Washington, D.C. for families of the missing from the war in Vietnam. In June, officials from every element of the POW/MIA accounting team presented briefings to 267 family members and concerned citizens. The Vietnam War briefings took place at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the National League of Families. There we directly addressed the concerns of family members. DPMO; the Armed Forces DNA Identification

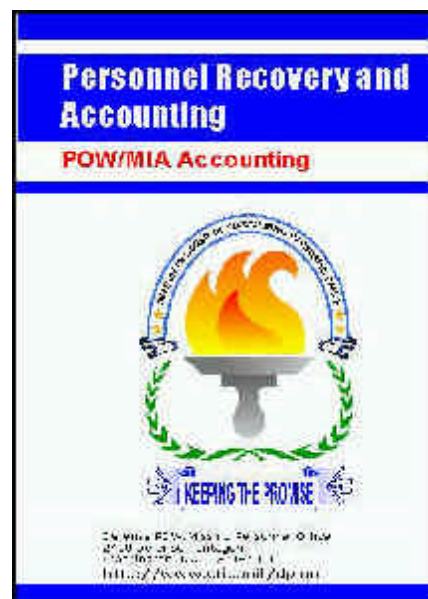
Laboratory; the Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii; the Joint Task Force–Full Accounting; the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the casualty offices of the Air Force, the Army, the Navy, the Marine Corps and the Department of State were all represented. Presenters at these annual meetings range from senior policy officials to analysts and scientists. This year we began a program, with the assistance of the Research and Analysis and Declass/FOIA directorates, to provide case summary sheets (scrub sheets) to all attendees of the annual government briefings. We also provide family members paper copies of all briefings.

Annual Korean/Cold War (K/CW) Government Briefings. Our team coordinates briefings for families and family organizations interested in the comprehensive accounting effort. With the success of the service casualty offices “K/CW outreach program,” more of these families are becoming interested in the status of their cases. K/CW families who come to Washington, D.C. in July for briefings have increased dramatically in recent years.

This year, 131 K/CW family members received a full day of briefings covering all aspects of the government’s accounting efforts. We developed our agenda based on input from K/CW family organizations and comments from last year’s questionnaires. This year, we also added policy briefings from the State Department and hosted a luncheon with Marine General and Medal of Honor recipient Raymond Davis as guest speaker. The K/CW briefings are conducted separately from the League briefings to allow the government agencies involved to focus their full attention on this event. The date set in late July is designed to coincide with the Korean War Armistice commemoration events held on July 27th. As with the aforementioned annual government meetings for the Vietnam War

families, we provide case summary sheets (scrub sheets) and paper copies of the briefings to all attendees of this meeting.

Casualty Liaison and Casualty Conferences. The Family Support Team continues to be the primary conduit for maintaining contact and communication among DPMO, the services and the Department of State casualty offices. Through daily contact we ensure mutual understanding and unity of purpose on all POW/MIA issues. As a further example of our efforts to enhance interdepartmental communications, we chaired two DoD joint casualty affairs conferences in 2001. These conferences provide a forum for organizations that work the POW/MIA issue to voice concerns, share ideas, and influence DoD policy. The results of these conferences translates into clear, consistent and credible information to our constituents. All of our efforts are directed toward speaking with one voice.



Revised in May, the DPMO Accounting Booklet details past, present and future of our accounting endeavors.

POW/MIA Accounting Booklet. We work closely with our public affairs and legislative affairs sections to highlight accounting initiatives. In this year alone, more than 5,300 POW/MIA accounting booklets were distributed to the American public, members of Congress and the families of our missing. In May, the booklet was revised to include the most recent accounting statistics and additional information about the use of DNA for assisting in the identification process. This 68-page booklet clearly lays out where we have been, where we are now, and where we hope to go in achieving the *fullest possible accounting*.

Memorial and Veterans Day Events. POW/MIA family members participated in Memorial and Veterans Day ceremonies this year. Each service casualty office invited a number of family members to participate. During the Memorial Day commemoration,

family members met and shook hands with the President. Family members also participated in the Memorial and Veterans Day ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery as official guests. By including family members in these events we prove our nation's commitment to *fullest possible accounting*.

State Veterans Outreach Effort. In November 2000, we sent letters to each state director for Veteran Affairs in an effort to assist the service casualty offices with their outreach efforts. A roster of that state's missing servicemen for whom we have had no family contact was attached to each letter. This helped reinforce the robust outreach efforts already undertaken by each service. This effort continues. Nearly 150 new family members have been located as a result of this program.



Veterans Day at Arlington National Cemetery.



More than 16,000 current family addresses are plotted to determine most accessible locations to present veteran and family updates.

Communications. We wrote more than 1,200 letters to family members this year. They were either answers to inquiries, notes of thanks, or newly-found documents and information. By responding to family inquiries with complete, credible and timely answers, we strengthen awareness and credibility of our government's POW/MIA accounting efforts. Finally, we mailed scores of case files to family members from the Cold War, Korean War and Vietnam War.

Internet Homepage. In 2001, we coordinated with public affairs to expand the DPMO homepage to include more information on all the agencies involved in this issue, the identification process and the use of DNA. We also designed many pages

with improved links to other related websites and added the Family Update schedule so that it is more easily accessed.

Family Mapping Project. We commissioned a software program so that family member residences can be electronically plotted on a map of the United States. With this information, we are more effective in scheduling family updates to be in the most densely POW/MIA family populated areas. This software came on-line in October.

Memorial Service for Those Killed in the Helicopter Crash in Vietnam. The entire family support team, with the assistance of other DPMO volunteers, planned and



DPMO marketing display at women's veterans convention, Indianapolis, November 2001.

coordinated an international memorial service to honor those killed on April 7, 2001, when their helicopter crashed while searching for missing American servicemen from the Vietnam War. The service was attended by Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz; Sen. Robert Smith (R-N.H.) and other congressional representatives; senior representatives from the Vietnamese, Laotian and Cambodian governments; the executive director of the National League of Families; and members of two of the families of men lost in the crash. The service was an opportunity for all associated with the POW/MIA issue to grieve for these fallen comrades. It was also an opportunity for the U.S. and Vietnamese governments to

reaffirm their commitment to the *fullest possible accounting* despite this tragic setback.

The Future of Family Support. In September, the Family Support Team conducted a thorough review of its mission, guiding principles and strategic goals. From this review we developed a comprehensive action plan through 2002. Several new initiatives were identified including: an increased role as family advocates, a more proactive outreach program to improve the attendance at Family Updates and a requirement for a conference coordinator position within our directorate.

Outreach

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AND CONCERNED CITIZENS

Congressional and public interest in the POW/MIA issue remained high in 2001. The Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office's Legislative and Concerned Citizens (LC) section received more than 1,800 written and telephonic inquiries regarding POW/MIA issues. Issues ranged from requests for general information on the accounting issue to information on specific cases. Approximately 60% of all the inquiries were requests for information concerning the Vietnam War; however,

interest continued to grow for Korean War and World War II accounting efforts.

Congressional referrals of citizens' inquiries constituted more than half of the total inquiries received by DPMO. Citizen inquiries to the White House and to DPMO were equally divided between the remaining 50 percent. DPMO-LC provided information papers to individual members of Congress and to congressional staff visiting those countries in which the department conducts accounting activities. The members and staff



All citizen inquiries on POW/MIA issues sent to the White House are forwarded to DPMO for response.



DPMO keeps Congress and their staffs informed on our POW/MIA accounting efforts.

use this information to reinforce DoD's accounting goals with foreign governments.

DPMO-LC continued to monitor congressional interest in the accounting and personnel recovery missions. We interface with members and staff to ensure their information on our issues is complete and accurate. We also provide them with additional data where needed. Moreover, DPMO-LA schedules and accompanies subject matter experts from other agencies within the accounting community to meet with members and staff in its efforts to be responsive to congressional interest in the

issue. These efforts help enhance congressional knowledge of DoD activities in these areas. Our actions aid congressional efforts and assist in maintaining continual recognition of DPMO as the principal United States government source of expertise on accounting and personnel recovery issues. At the request of congressional members, DPMO-LA and policy staff participate in member-sponsored conferences for veterans and interested citizens by making presentations of government accounting and personnel recovery efforts.

Outreach

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The traditional mission of Public Affairs is to support senior leadership in the accomplishment of the mission. This holds true in wartime, as well as with non-combat missions. PA provides specialties that facilitate the work of U.S. government policymakers.

Within the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, PA supports the policy oversight mission of this agency, as well as the field units which are engaged in operational missions.

The commitment of the U.S. government of seeking the fullest possible accounting for missing service members is a national priority of the first order. This commitment is to its citizens that the government will expend every effort in this humanitarian mission, and that its citizens

will be kept informed on the progress. This has been the commitment of DPMO since its creation in 1993.

One aspect of the work to uphold the commitment is to ensure that all of the various constituencies (families, Congress, active duty military, veterans, general public, news media, etc.) have full and free access to the results of the government's work. Therefore, a significant DPMO outreach effort carries that information directly to the media – national, international and local – and to veterans, their leadership and their organizations – as well as to family members and POW/MIA organizations.

Media Outreach and Families. DPMO has established itself among local and national media as credible and responsive. As a result, we see a regular flow of positive news coverage presented to the American public.



National and local papers cover DPMO's mission.



DASD Jennings meets CMSgt William Tippens, USAF (Ret.) at the National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, September, 2001.

This flow of news and information does not occur unless we initiate it. So we make special efforts to highlight newsworthy events about our mission, and target those stories to the media who would be most receptive. For example, upon the accounting of a missing American (our core mission), we make a national news release through the Pentagon to interested media. Such stories are viewed by as many as 730,000 Internet readers weekly, and 10,000 others are on an automatic electronic distribution list. As a result of these releases, we respond to dozens of follow-on media queries, especially from the hometowns of the identified serviceman. We also work with family representatives to facilitate their conversations with local media in the development of a story that is accurate, respectful and sensitive to the emotions involved in these events.

We see excellent stories published locally as a result of our media work. While

the national newspapers such as *USA Today* and the *New York Times* do cover our work, it is coverage by local media of hometown stories which tends to make the most lasting, favorable impressions on the public. These stories have appeared in hundreds of local papers and broadcast outlets across the country.

On several occasions this year, we have presented story ideas to national newspapers and wire services who have then written wide-ranging articles about this agency and the work done by operational units in the field.

USA Today (1.7 million circulation) has documented our work several times this year. Additionally, we established contact with a prominent author this year who published a cover story in *Parade Magazine* (distributed with 327 newspapers; circulation 37.2 million) about the mission in Southeast Asia. This author is now under contract with a major publisher for a book on our mission scheduled for release in 2002.

Several newsworthy events this year serve to illustrate the power of media coverage generated by Public Affairs outreach. Elsewhere in this annual report, you will read about the Kamchatka, Russia, expedition led by DPMO's Joint Commission Support Directorate and the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii. Recognizing the potential media interest in this event, we wrote a straightforward press announcement to be released when the dates were set for the expedition. That release caught the attention of several independent film producers, one of which we invited to DPMO for a planning meeting on the

mission. These producers then “sold” the story to the prestigious *NOVA* science-oriented program on the Public Broadcasting System, as well as to BBC’s outlet *Channel 4*. We assisted the producers in covering the planning and the execution of that mission in Russia, including their flight on a U.S. Air Force aircraft into Russia.

The Kamchatka story was also picked up both by Tom Brokaw’s *NBC Nightly News*, and by NBC’s *Today Show*. Both sent correspondents to the scene in Russia to document our work with the Russians and the recovery efforts by CILHI. Additionally, JCSD specialists took the *NOVA* team on a separate investigation as they sought to locate other WWII crash sites on the peninsula. PA assisted both NBC and *NOVA* in contacting family members of the WWII bomber crew for interviews. As a result of the widespread viewing of these stories, we continue to receive media queries nearly one year after the expedition.

In a similar vein, illustrating the news value associated with our mission, we wrote a national release upon the identification of crew members of a WWII Army Air Forces B-24 bomber. The group burial of their remains at Arlington Cemetery was scheduled after the September 11 attack on America. The media drew some parallels between our work to account for the missing from past conflicts and the attacks of Sept. 11. The ceremony at Arlington garnered widespread coverage, especially from newspapers and television outlets

feeding information back to the nationwide hometowns of the WWII crewmembers.

Outreach to Veterans. An important aspect of DPMO’s outreach is to veterans and their organizations. While many Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) lobby for benefits for their members, many are keenly interested in the government’s work to account for their fallen comrades. We continued to maintain contact with the leadership of all the major VSOs, and aggressively sought out smaller organizations, especially with those which publish a magazine or newspaper.

With the arrival of the Honorable Jerry Jennings as the new Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs, we arranged many “one-on-one” meetings between Mr. Jennings and the leadership of the VSOs. Mr. Jennings used these informal meetings to exchange views with the veterans, and to ensure they understood DPMO’s continued commitment to the accounting of missing Americans. As a result of these meetings, the DPMO



Veteran group leaders receive periodic updates from DPMO.

leadership has been invited to make presentations to virtually all of the national VSO conventions during the coming year.

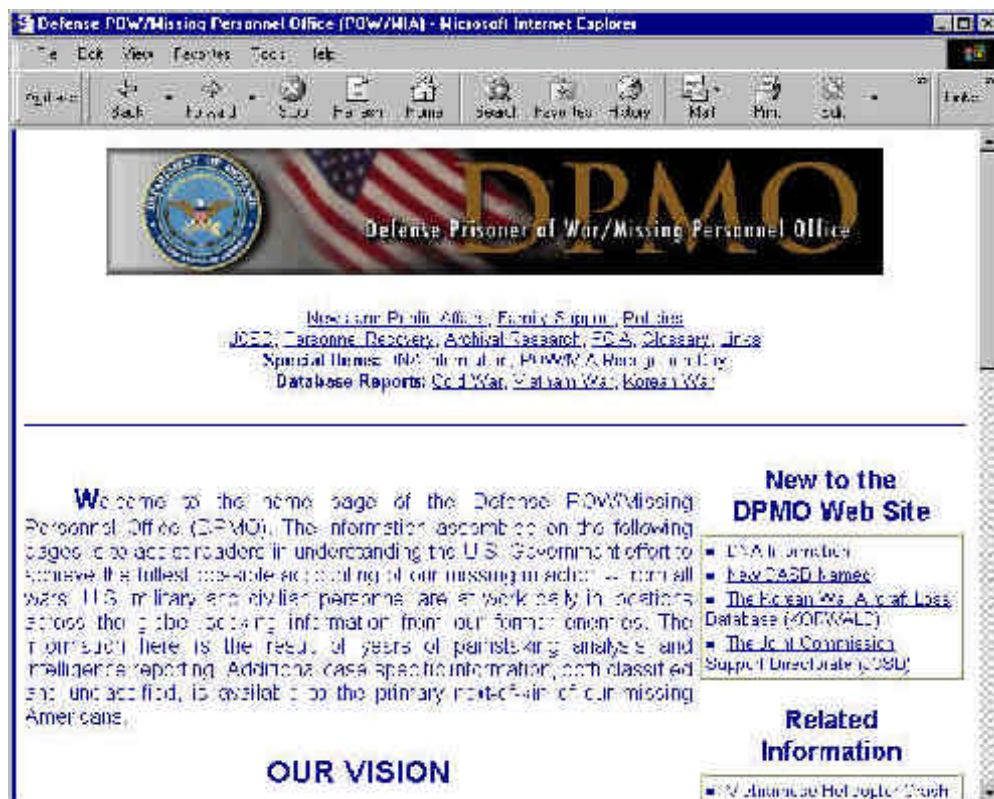
To carry the messages directly to veterans in their hometowns, we conducted Veterans Updates in conjunction with the Family Updates in communities across the country. Veterans' attendance at these events has varied widely from city to city, so we met with the staffs of all the key VSOs to explore additional ways to keep the veterans fully informed. We have implemented many of their ideas including a direct mailing to all local VSO posts and chapters, as well as a telephone follow-up about two weeks prior to the local event. Additionally, we have asked the VSO publications to periodically display the schedule of our Veterans Updates and Family Updates to encourage their members to attend.

For the coming year, we are exploring other innovative outreach efforts, including

that of public service announcements on local radio stations.

The Internet. Public Affairs continues to capitalize on the power of widespread communications through the Internet. With the assistance of our Resource Management division, we have added more and more information to our DPMO home page (www.dtic.mil/dpmo) making our site a prime research location for families, veterans, media and concerned citizens. The popularity of our site has grown exponentially.

When we put the site on-line in 1996, we were receiving about 2,000 weekly "hits," or individual requests for files. In 2001, we are averaging more than 100,000 "hits" weekly, and have seen that figure as high as 152,000. We respond to inputs from researchers, media and the public to continue to improve the utility of our site. We have



DPMO web page receives an average of 100,000 "hits" weekly.



Several military magazines published the 2001 National POW/MIA Recognition Day poster in their September issue.

aggressively sought to have our site “linked” to other sites of similar interest. As of this writing, we are “linked” to more than 600 such sites, and that number grows almost daily.

Special Events. People to people events play an important role in any credible Public Affairs outreach strategy. For example, each year, DPMO leads the planning effort for National POW/MIA Recognition Day in September. The centerpiece of the observance in Washington this year was to be the Pentagon ceremony, however, the attack

on the Pentagon of Sept. 11 raised the possibility of cancellation of the Sept. 21 event. Security measures around the Pentagon made access by the public for the ceremony virtually impossible.

However, the decision was made to move the event to the Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery. PA rapidly notified all veterans and family organizations of the change, and worked closely with DoD Protocol to arrange transportation for attendees into the cemetery. The event was hosted by Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White, with former Vietnam POW Orson

Swindle as the keynote speaker. With the legislated flying of the somber, black POW flag of the National League of Families, the commemoration of this event is recognized in many cities across the country. In response to demands by media, veterans and families, we created a special section within our Internet web site, which offers background and visual material to assist local military and civilian planners with their ceremonies.

With welcome assistance from several family and veterans organizations, the design of the POW/MIA Recognition Day poster was well received. It captured the pain and memory of a family, while



National POW/MIA Recognition Day at Arlington National Cemetery, September 21, 2001.



Just one week following 9/11, the National POW/MIA Recognition Day audience listens to the speaker's remarks with a renewed appreciation of past American sacrifices for freedom.





Norm Duquette, a Korean War POW was guest speaker for DPMO's 7th annual National Prayer Breakfast, Arlington, VA, held in February.

reflecting on the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform. The poster theme was "Their Service ... Our Duty." As in previous years, we distributed thousands of paper copies of the posters and also presented an electronic version on our Internet web site.

To further our outreach, we were able to provide several hundred middle and high school students in Illinois and Minnesota a detailed presentation on our efforts to account for America's missing servicemembers. In November, we were also invited to speak to the Indiana State Women Veterans and were able to set-up our marketing display during their two-day conference.

The seventh annual DPMO hosted Prayer Breakfast, held in Arlington highlighted the Korean War Commemoration by inviting

Mr. Norman Duquette, a POW from that war. His moving remarks about his captivity, his fellow prisoners and his faith inspired all those in attendance.

Our work with the White House this year included support in development of speeches for the President at Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Additionally, our commitment to the fullest possible accounting is highlighted by the Presidential proclamations on National POW/MIA Recognition Day in September; and the proclamation for National Former POW Day in April. We have also worked closely with speechwriters within the Department of Defense to ensure the national commitment to the fullest possible accounting is fully emphasized in appropriate major speeches.

Special Projects and Archival Research

The Special Projects/Archival Research directorate oversees archival research efforts for DPMO. SPAR coordinates its efforts with other DPMO directorates, especially the Research and Analysis and Joint Commission Support Directorates and externally with Joint Task Force-Full Accounting and the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii, to identify archival facilities to be visited and specific types of information to be collected.

SPAR conducts archival research to retrieve evidence concerning the circumstances of loss on service members missing in action for over 60 years beginning with WWII. Casualty analysts, anthropologists and mortuary specialists conducting field operations use this information, gathered from historical records, repositories, libraries and special collections. Information obtained from archival facilities is copied and sent to the National Archives (NARA) or Library of Congress for public access and research.

Since Congress appropriated \$1 million toward locating Korean War records in the mid-1990s, we have continued a worldwide search for information that could contribute to the fullest possible accounting of U.S. servicemen and selected civilians who remain unaccounted-for.

Our researchers have successfully located more than 500 foreign and domestic libraries, archives, and special collections that could hold information concerning the nation's POW/MIAs.

We have been successful in our research of records in U.S. archival collections as well as those in Hanoi, Vientiane, Phnom Penh, Canberra, Seoul, Pyongyang, Geneva and London. Our archivists continue to work remotely with the Public Records Office (PRO) in Kew Gardens, London, and the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. The initial information found in the PRO

suggests that it has archival information concerning Americans who are unaccounted-for from the Korean War, contained in the debriefings of repatriated British POWs. We are working with the U.K. Defense Attaché to obtain access to classified holdings at the PRO that could yield significant information for DPMO.

In September, we located several lists of Americans who were held captive during the Korean War, World War II and the Vietnam War, and became aware of a collection of non-public records related to POWs from Korea and World War II at the ICRC. We have requested access to these classified reports. Our researchers plan to review these and other holdings in the PRO and the ICRC next year.

Archival research efforts continued to press forward in domestic archives, repositories and special collections this year. A SPAR researcher spent 12 weeks working at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, reviewing hundreds of reels of microfilm and copying almost 5,000 Army morning reports and hospital morning reports from the Korean War and World War II. We obtained more than 6,500 pages of records to help corroborate the information held in existing databases.

As a result, some individual case files have been updated, while several others have been removed from the unaccounted-for list. Just as significant, these changes were added to our existing database and record holdings. We also sought and received approval this year to remotely access the NPRC personnel registry database that provides instant access to more than 75 million veterans' files. This access is expected to be fully implemented by the first quarter of 2002 and will enable DPMO analysts to order copies of individual military records directly.

SPAR researchers visited the center for the study of the Korean War at Graceland University, Independence, Mo., where they



SPAR researchers visited domestic archive facilities around the country. Information and photographs concerning the circumstances of loss of American soldiers are copied and sent to NARA (pictured here) or the Library of Congress for public access and research.

made copies of several key documents including selected T-6 flight logs from the Korean War. This information is used to update the Korean War Air Loss Database (KORWALD). A SPAR researcher also attended the first Mayaguez reunion and the annual reunion of Jolly Green helicopter crews in Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. where he met survivors, obtaining names and contact information of key eyewitnesses for future interviews.

This year our researchers revisited two of NARA's presidential libraries, the Truman Library in Independence Mo., and the Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kan. They completed their review of the Eisenhower holdings, retrieving important policy documents relating to Operations *Big Switch*, *Little Switch* and *Glory*. Similarly, at the Truman Library the researchers identified and recovered hundreds of pages of classified records on many Korean War losses. There remain several more groups of records to be

reviewed. During the same visit to the Kansas City, Mo. area, we identified more than 2,500 pages of Korean War military records relating to POW/MIAs located in the Combined Arms Research Library at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan. DPMO analysts and SPAR researchers continue to analyze this information, some of which have already contributed to individual case resolution.

A visit to the U.N. archives in New York resulted in several successful acquisitions of important information, including some pertaining to the Korean War Taejon Massacre (with photos of the recovery of American soldiers), details of U.K. air

losses, and examples of some of the approximately 3,500 North Korean reports of interment and graves registration service documentation on individual North Korean People's Army deaths. We also found WWII documents concerning the trial and conviction of senior Japanese naval officers as well as several maps and supporting documents concerning the burial of nine Marines. A SPAR researcher reviewed 25 rolls of microfilm of the U.N. War Crimes Commission, and located a Japanese original of a drawing of the execution site that helped identify the location of the mass grave. We sent copies of these materials to CILHI, which has since located the burial site and scheduled it for excavation in January 2002.

In the Washington area, the National Archives and Records Administration, especially the NARA II facility in College Park, Md., continues to be a primary source of records, personnel files, orders of battle and enemy accounting from the battles in

which the United States was engaged. Early in the year, our archivists found additional documents concerning the Makin Raiders' mission of mid-1942, when nine Marines were taken prisoner by the Japanese Imperial Navy on Makin Atoll and later transported to Kwajalein Island where they were executed. Another research effort at NARA II resulted in finding approximately 2,500 names of North Vietnamese POWs, a list of whom DPMO provided to the White House for the President to present to the Vietnamese.

Additional SPAR archival research efforts at NARA II directly supported requests for information from CILHI and resulted in the retrieval of documentation on several specific cases, including documents on World War II MIA cases on 300 American POWs held in the Philippines.

We also began reviewing Korean War-era U.S. Navy ship logs and analyzed Navy and Marine Corps ship and aircraft losses. This effort assisted in the recovery of more than a dozen remains of individuals, previously listed as MIA in the Personnel Missing in Korea (PMKOR) and CILHI Automated Recovery and Identification System (CARIS) databases. The ship logs also document search and rescue efforts that did not result in the recovery of personnel.

We also compared over 2,000 Army Korean War reports of death memoranda, found at the NPRC, with DPMO's PMKOR database. The researchers found and corrected more than 100 significant discrepancies such as the dates of loss of personnel, name misspellings and unit affiliations.

The initial version of KORWALD, containing information on more than 3,400 loss incidents involving Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Army and allied aircraft was completed this year. Information on aircraft types and tail numbers, dates of loss, circumstances of loss and status of crewmembers is now available on the DPMO web site. This data is

cross-referenced to approximately 900 hard-copy airfield search case files of detailed circumstances of loss on U.S. and U.N. aircrew losses. No complete record of Korean War aircraft losses existed prior to the compilation of this database. Now DPMO analysts can electronically search this database and refer to the hard-copy field search cases for details on specific losses. This database is a significant research tool for analysts, historians, researchers and academicians alike. As new information is located and analyzed, it is being added to KORWALD.

A SPAR researcher began a new effort this year at the Naval and Marine Corps historical center conducting extensive research on their service aircraft losses. He extracted aircraft loss and search and rescue data from over 70 carrier group action reports and more than 160 individual aircraft carrier action reports covering wartime operations. He also reviewed war diaries that further document search and rescue efforts. Reviewing and extracting loss data from approximately 300,000 pages of Marine Corps Korean War unit histories continues. This research has contributed directly to the KORWALD database, supplementing data in more than 250 hardcopy airfield search cases, and has resulted in the creation of more than 60 new airfield search cases.

In 2001, as in prior years, a number of Navy reservists augmented SPAR's research efforts, both in the Washington, D.C. area and at other domestic sites. Of note, one small team of reservists reviewed the personal papers of Admiral Arleigh Burke. They also retrieved numerous documents related to Korean War naval ship and air losses and determined this information's significance to missing military personnel. Concurrently, DPMO's Army reservist augmentation unit and Navy reservists reviewed an estimated 1.2 million pages of documents, entering the updated pertinent information into our existing databases.

Naval reservists also augmented our research efforts by reviewing Korean War debriefings for information on loss incidents, POW physical status, movements, location after capture, POW camp descriptions, reports of death, and possible burial sites, contributing directly to field search cases. They entered the new facts into the DPMO database. This effort reached a milestone in 2001 when the focus shifted from collection to organizing and analysis phases. We used the above collections to create a database of Korean War POW returnee debriefings or “KORDEB.”

The KORDEB is the result of a five-year project with Naval reservist augmentees. It contains information from more than 3,600 debriefs, with approximately 71,000 sighting or hearsay reports. Although most of the debriefings are from Army personnel, other service debriefings were also added to the database.

Finally, we initiated a project this year to electronically scan and index all of the field search cases contained in the Korean War air and ground field search case files and individual case files. Researchers continue indexing Korean War POW/MIA accounting data that was scanned during the “Ballston” project in 1999. Valuable data continues to be gleaned from these documents, including several Seoul “Blackboard” lists of names of personnel who remain unaccounted-for today. Our objectives and persistence has enhanced the organization’s ultimate goal of providing the public the fullest possible accounting of Americans missing from all conflicts.



Many documents on MIAs are held in DPMO files.

Communications and External Affairs

DECLASSIFICATION AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT DIVISION

The Declassification and Freedom of Information Act division (DF) focused its efforts on several new and long term continuing projects this year. The McCain Bill remains the prime directive for declassification efforts within DPMO. This statute continues to be the driving force behind declassification and review of our document holdings.

Information that pertains to an unaccounted-for service member is being made available for release to family members and to the general public. The broad declassification of government documents is implemented in compliance with the provisions of the more recent Executive Order (EO) 12958. The McCain

Bill has led the way for DPMO to coincidentally conform to EO objectives for automatic and systematic declassification. Under the McCain Bill, DF continues to process documents, old and contemporary, for public release so that families and the American public are kept informed about the activities and successes of recovery efforts and identification of remains of previously unaccounted-for service members. This process stresses the timely release of information while ensuring the privacy and dignity of unaccounted-for personnel and returnees.

To enhance our mission performance, we enlisted the aid of a contractor to develop an electronic declassification and Freedom of Information Act redaction system. The software was first downloaded to our computers in May 2000. This system underwent an extensive test and evaluation process. In September 2000, we officially began to use this new software. Experience has shown an increase in productivity with savings in time and materials using the new system. An updated version of the electronic redaction system was installed in DPMO computers in December and has greatly improved our efficiency.

This spring we tested and validated the feasibility of electronically transmitting processed documents. We transmitted 1,380 pages of declassified/redacted documents to the Library of Congress (LoC) where approximately 953,000 pages of POW/MIA material already reside in the Vietnam POW/MIA database for public access. Approximately 6,000 pages of electronically transmitted, processed documents were added to the LoC collection this year. Furthermore, more than 175,400 accessions were made to



The "McCain Bill," prime directive for declassification, guides DPMO's compliance for public release.

the LoC POW/MIA database reflecting the steadily growing public interest in the collection. Efforts continue with the contractor to refine the system's performance and utility. In fact, several other agencies within the executive branch of government have adopted this same system with only minor differences.

In a continuing effort, we have teamed with the Federal Research Division, LoC, to reconfigure the Vietnam POW/MIA database. This project is designed to provide a more user-friendly public accessibility to stored documents. The intent is to provide direct access to documents in the LoC database, not possible under the current database construct.

An experimental web site previewing the new capability was successfully tested in September and October 2000. Due to unanticipated technical issues, completion was not accomplished as planned in early 2001. The technical difficulties have been overcome and we expect that the revised LoC Vietnam POW/MIA database will be completed by September 2002 using electronically scanned microfilm and a reconfigured web site. Until then, microfilm will continue to be the public's primary viewing medium. Once we complete the electronic scanning of existing microfilm reels and the LoC reviews and "links" document electronic images with their index, the project will be ready to go on line for public access.

Significant efforts continue to be directed toward declassification and FOIA supporting a broad variety of requirements, from routine processing for activities supporting family updates to ad hoc requirements stemming from diverse sources. Our declassification division, in conjunction with the CIA, DIA, NSA, NIMA, DoD, JCS, CENTCOM and Navy Department, has reviewed for release a joint DoD/CIA Inspector General Report. All told, DF has

processed 542 requests for declassified/redacted material amounting to approximately 14,000 pages. Additionally, almost 5,600 pages of material have been released in response to 81 separate requests under FOIA, mandatory declassification and security reviews.

REFERENCE AND DOCUMENTS DIVISION

The Reference and Documents division expanded its electronic file conversion efforts with the acquisition of the Vredenburg / Highland V:EFOIA software and the development and implementation of DPMO's RetrievalWare. A total of 21,123 pages has been scanned-in electronically. This year's figures include: updating of 902 individual case files; indexing of 51 case files; electronic scanning of 47 case files; and placing on RetrievalWare - 37 case files, containing 2,971 documents.

RD completed 633 "tasker requests" requiring electronic scanning in support of various DPMO directorates this year. We also processed three separate special projects: one each for RA, DF and IS. One of the electronic benefits of RD's scanning efforts is that of optical character reading of document text. This permits DPMO users to search the database text files for information on a specific subject. It is vital for successful searches on RetrievalWare, the research software package now available to all DPMO users.

We updated and published monthly statistics associated with SEA unaccounted-for individuals. These statistics are used by members of the DPMO staff and distributed to the service casualty offices, JTF-FA, CILHI, veteran and family organizations and to key members of Congress.

Our staff continues to perform daily file access services for DPMO personnel. Almost 3,000 files were checked out of our file room, reviewed and returned this year.

RD successfully updated and coordinated the FY2002 Memorandum of Agreement between the LoC and DPMO, providing for continued public access to declassified Vietnam-era materials.

NEW INITIATIVE

RD contractors have begun the process of converting all of the LoC's existing Southeast Asia collection from microfilm to electronic image. This means that public users on the Internet will be able to access the documents in the collection directly on their home computers. The present process requires requestors to order the microfilm reels from the LoC to their local library for viewing. Upon full

implementation, this new service will represent a quantum improvement in convenience to public users of this collection.

Of the total of 488 microfilm reels in the collection before electronic conversion began, 210 have been converted into electronic image and transferred to the LoC. The LoC, in turn, is linking the images to the collection's index. The linking and testing processes are proceeding smoothly and quickly. The image quality is excellent. The remaining reels are being converted at a brisk pace. Allowing for completion time at DPMO and linking and testing at the LoC, this service should be available to the public by the end of September 2002.

Library of Congress/Federal Research Division

- Shipped **5,997 pages** of declassified/redacted material including:
PNOK status changes: 5 files
Special Category items: 2 items

General LoC Information:

- Over 953,850 total pages in the POW/MIA database
- 136,664 total documents in the database
- Microfilm reels: 494
- "Log-in's" to the database:
CY 2001: 175,472
CY 2000: 143,360
CY 1999: 123,674

Production:

- Southeast Asia File Management:
Updated case files: 902
Scanned case files: 37
- SEA Casualty File other:

Action	# of files
For declassification to family:	11
For on-site family review:	0
For PNOK status change:	39

CORRESPONDENCE MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Correspondence Management Team is authorized one civilian and two military personnel; one civilian and one non-commissioned officer are presently assigned.

Our mission in CMT is to provide correspondence management and control for DPMO. We receive and control all incoming correspondence through two database systems. We assign, monitor, and clear every OSD and DPMO tasker with a suspense date. This year we processed over 1,500 suspenses and supported DPMO's administrative requirements with more than 600 courier runs to four different mail centers in the Pentagon and other distribution points.

Our chronological files established for 2001 consist of an estimated 14 linear feet of correspondence to families, congressional

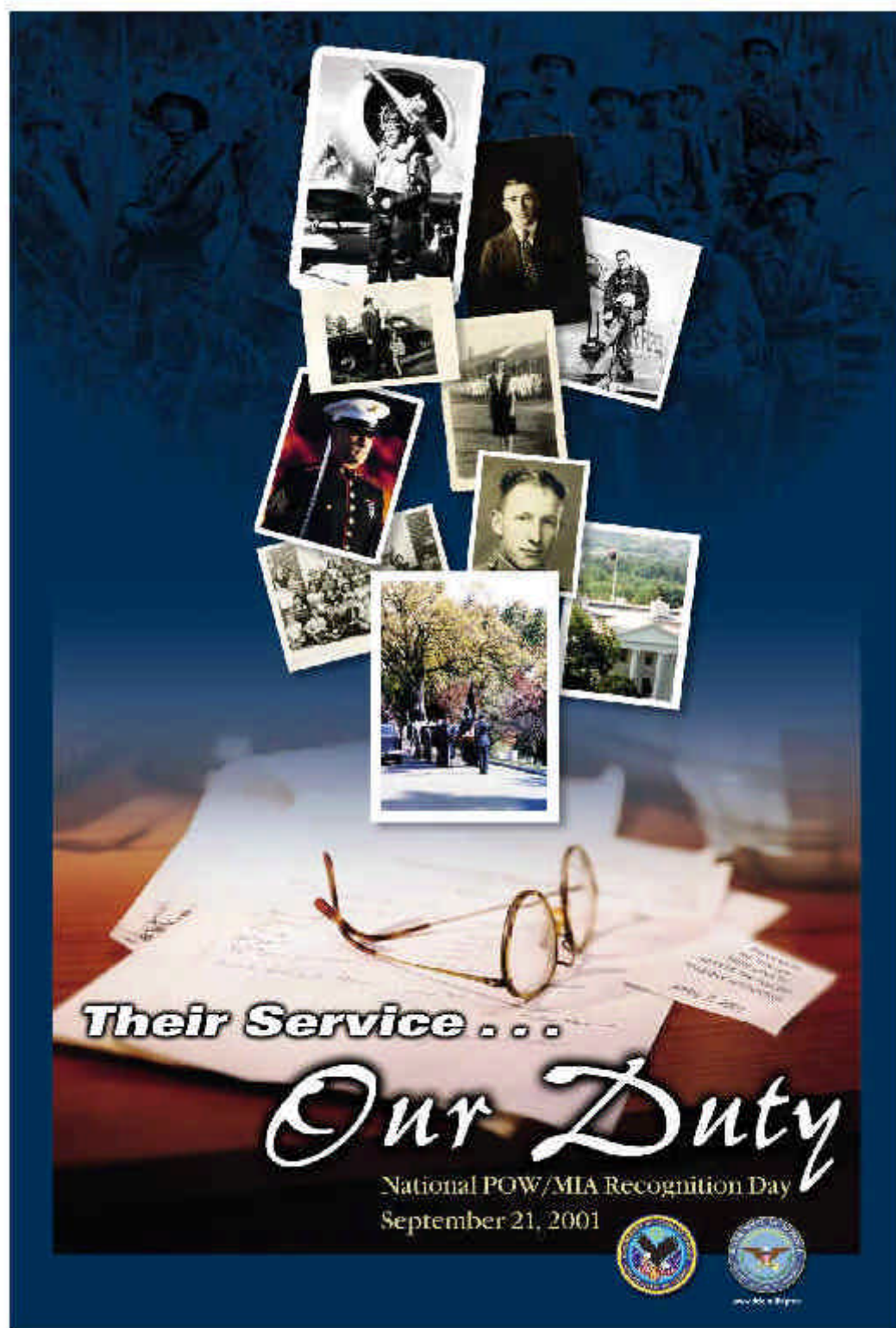
members, veterans' organizations, researchers and concerned citizens. We also built more than 240 daily read files for DPMO-wide review.

CMT supports a staff of more than 120 senior policy officers, analysts and casualty officers assigned in DPMO with quality service. We serve as the administrative focal point for the organization by controlling the daily flow of all correspondence. We also disseminated more than 30,000 copies of this year's National POW/MIA Recognition Day poster to DoD offices, the military services, veterans and family organizations, to many civilian interest groups and other interested civilians.



More than 600 courier runs to four different mail centers in the Pentagon start and end with CMT.

The 2001
National
POW/MIA
Recognition
Day poster.



Resource Management

The Resource Management directorate serves as trusted management advisor, providing top quality resource management services throughout our organization. We ensure all necessary means of communication and technical advice, resources and assets are available to the staff to execute policy and oversight of DoD's personnel accounting and recovery mission. Our areas of expertise include human resources, information technology and systems support, fiscal management -- program and budget operations, security, contract administration, facilities management, procurement, travel and managerial consultation. We rely on our guiding principles of dedication to the mission, putting people first, customer service orientation, accountability, responsiveness and excellence in all our products to produce innovative solutions that ensure the most efficient use of public resources.

In this role, RM is the directorate responsible for implementing system and process improvement and continually updating it - achieving tangible results for the entire organization. Our guidance comes from President Bush's management reform agenda where he describes it as, "...a bold strategy for improving the management and performance of the federal government. ... Good beginnings are not the measure of success. What matters in the end is completion. Performance. Results. ... In my administration, that will be the standard from the farthest regional office of government to the highest office in the land." The president's vision is guided by three principles:

- Government should be citizen-centered,
- Results oriented, and
- Market based (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2002/mgmt>).

Our technically proficient team of subject matter experts provides the crucial services that enable DPMO staff to focus on their day-to-day analytical responsibilities and comply with improved efficiencies. This year, our key emphasis focused on improving internal processes in response to the president's agenda, implementing an improved internal financial management program and enhancing the public's ability to access information.

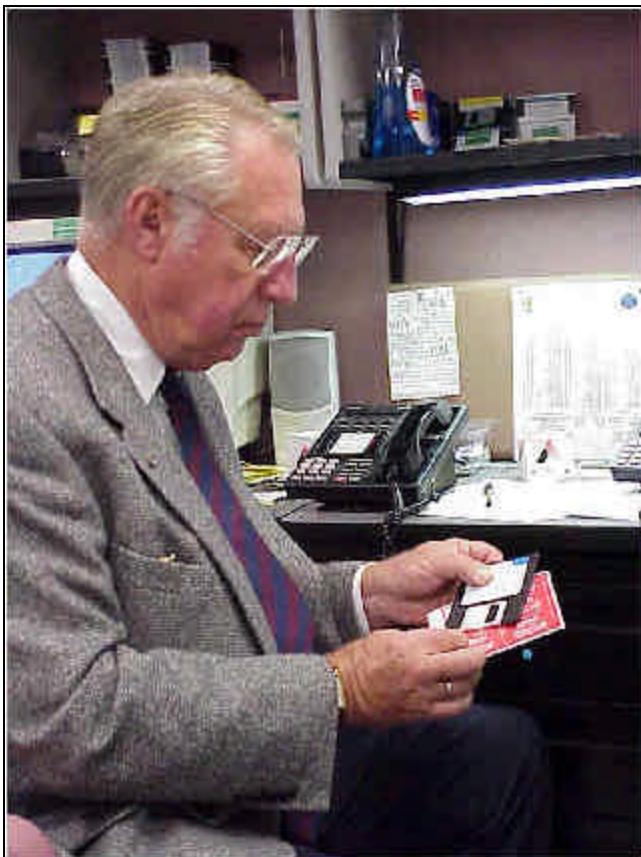
The Information Systems (IS) division helped DPMO apply sound corporate practices and modern information technology to reduce processing time and costs, resulting in increased output and improved results to constituencies. The IS team implemented the technical foundation that allows DPMO to achieve these goals -- moving the unclassified Local Area Network processing to the most powerful system server available. Additional IS related improvements made this year include:

- DPMO's webmaster completed updates to our web site, mandated by an amendment to the Rehabilitation Act, Section 508 "Accessibility of DoD Websites to People with Disabilities." This process required a comprehensive analysis of more than 10,000 pages of material ensuring accessibility to people with disabilities as outlined in this legislation. DPMO's web site was one of the first in DoD to complete the requirement by the date specified in the law.
- We continue to provide the technological capability and equipment required for our command language program. The program goals are to help linguists continue individual programs and ensure they complete required proficiency testing. This year, the IS staff established a video link with linguists at the Defense

Language Institute, greatly enhancing the quality of language training available to our employees.

- RM used this same video link to establish a video teleconference system with DPMO counterparts outside the Washington, D.C. area, including the CILHI. Because the hardware and other equipment were already in place, we obtained the teleconferencing capability at a minimum cost.

- The Office of the Secretary of Defense established new standards and requirements this year to reduce operating costs for unclassified electronic mail services. To conform to this standard, we migrated the DPMO electronic unclassified post office to a centralized OSD post office.



IS staff continually upgrades DPMO automated systems, creating databases and electronic storage for all DPMO.

This standardizes our mailing addresses and enhances our communication capabilities within DoD and with our many other constituents.

- Congress mandated in Title V US Code 552 (as amended), that all federal agencies must be capable of responding to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests electronically. DPMO has been one of the government's leaders in this area since Sept. 2000 by using Vredenburg: Electronic Freedom of Information Act software. Specifically,

- * V:EFOIA is a scanning and electronic redaction software program used for processing FOIA, declassification, and external agency referrals;
- * V:EFOIA use reduced production and processing time to prepare documents and deliver them to the Library of Congress and the National Archives; and,
- * Makes electronic copies of all information more easily accessible to DPMO analysts and archival researchers.

DPMO participates in a government-wide working group that meets regularly to maintain the system capabilities, implement additional changes, and increase interagency communication and coordination on EFOIA requirements.

RM's second area of achievement focused on improved financial capital management activities, promoting the administration's efforts to implement financial management systems compliant with:

- The Joint Financial Management Improvement Program,

- The Government Accounting Office and Treasury standards, and,

- Chief Financial Officer Act.

We continue to work with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service to obtain the actual accounting system that complies with these initiatives. DPMO was scheduled to receive the Defense Joint Accounting System in November; however, the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Comptroller delayed the deployment to ensure consistency for the entire department.

RM also serves as financial capital and resource advisors on mission area issues that impact on the entire spectrum of personnel recovery and accounting funding issues. We work closely with all DPMO staff to resolve all resource issues. This year we facilitated multifaceted research contracts that help gather information not readily available to DPMO's analysts. RM facilitates the contracting process for DPMO's on-going projects related to personnel recovery, civil search and rescue, microfilming and archival research.

Providing information and assistance is a vital part of DPMO's outreach effort to keep the public and government agencies informed regarding America's POW/Missing Personnel mission. RM assists these initiatives by:



Data applications for work-related requirements are performed by our specialized contract personnel.

- Continued support of the Public Affairs marketing display. We maintain the equipment that supports a portable display unit taken to various conventions and assemblies across the country showing the many facets of our mission to account for the missing, as well as personnel recovery initiatives.

- Enhancing the DPMO web site to provide more accurate and timely information to interested viewers. This year we posted the initial version of the KORWALD that contains information on more than 3,400 loss incidents involving U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Army, and Allied aircraft. DPMO's KORWALD is the first comprehensive

collection of Korean War aircraft losses and is a significant research tool for family members, analysts, historians, researchers and academicians. This new data resulted in more than 60 new airfield search cases that will be incorporated into the database.

- The IS support team created two new mapping application systems this year to assist DPMO personnel in their work. The first is the Primary Next of Kin application and the other is an Enemy Order of Battle application.

The first displays the location for every available PNOK for each unaccounted-for service member. This graphic display helps our family support staff communicate with the service casualty offices and portrays a demographic picture enabling sound planning for future family and veteran update locations.

The second application supports DPMO's research analysts by plotting enemy order of battle for Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. It enables the analysts to fuse various pieces of information together with a capability to share it with other analysts from JTF-FA, CILHI and DIA's Stony Beach. For the first time, analysts can graphically display large amounts of information and share it within the accounting community utilizing the best in information technology processes.

Moving toward the electronically dominated environment increases the need for improved security processes to protect the

integrity of DPMO's data. Information warfare and hacker attacks are increasing throughout the DoD. In response to continued potential threats, DPMO emphasizes information assurance to protect its information systems networks. We strive to protect all information and data related to the entire spectrum of personnel accounting and recovery mission areas. We place special emphasis on infrastructure protection and hired additional systems security professionals this year to better detect, react to, and prevent security vulnerabilities. Systems security personnel persistently research and upgrade technology, modernizing the way we protect equipment, data and the integrity of our mission.

In addition to these specific achievements, RM provides day-to-day management support of civilian and military personnel as well as to temporarily assigned Army and Navy reserve personnel augmenting our translation services and archival research efforts. We oversee the remote access system that allows DPMO travelers access to their workstation files from remote locations. We also work with DIA and Arlington County Fire Department to improve specific procedures for rapid exit of our building during emergencies. We upgraded the current telephone system to enhance reliability, service and accessibility to the public. All of our efforts are linked to tangible mission results in support of the overall personnel accounting and recovery mission of DPMO.



**Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office
2400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-2400**

www.dtic.mil/dpmo